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Pool Flight Proposal

Mr. Durward Sorensen of the Civil Aviation Advisory Group attached to USOM/Vietnam has informed me this morning that the Government of Vietnam is taking rapid steps in regards to taking over ownership of Air Vietnam. As I told you before, publically French interest amounts to 49%; however, in actual fact such interest is 70%.

In regards to the pool flight set-up, I would suggest writing, on an urgent basis, a letter to air Vietnam-either a detailed proposal or generalities—so we are not left out. Air Vietnam desires to make pool arrangements with us; however, several months have passed since the informal approach. Currently, Air Vietnam is being pressured to accept pool arrangements with NWA, PAA, SAS, etc. If a proposal is received from CAT, all others will probably be junked. The Saigon-Hongkong route proposal is the most urgent due to their desire to dump Air France.

Clyde W. Bauer Station Manager

cc: 2 extra to VPT&S

3-8/5/59